

**SALVO conquers the Semaine de la Critique,
winning the Grand Prix Nespresso and the Prix Révélation France 4**

On the 5th anniversary of the birth of TorinoFilmLab, “SALVO” the movie by Fabio Grassadonia and Antonio Piazza has won both major Awards of the 52nd Semaine de la Critique in Cannes. The movie was selected for the opening of the historical section of the Cannes Festival.

“SALVO”, produced by Acaba Produzioni (Italy) and Cristaldi Pictures (Italy) and coproduced by the French Mact Productions Cité Film and ARTE France Cinema, is a project born within the TorinoFilmLab: it was first developed by the program Script & Pitch in 2007 and by FrameWork in 2009, and has been awarded the TorinoFilmLab Production Award of 140,000 Euro during the second edition of the TorinoFilmLab Meeting Event in November 2009. It is the first feature film directed by the duo of Italian directors and has been shot in Sicily during the summer of 2012. The cast includes young Palestinian actor Saleh Bakri, the novice Sara Serraiocco and Luigi Lo Cascio, while the photograph is of Daniel Cyprus.

The two international juries, chaired respectively by Miguel Gomes and Mia Hansen-Love, awarded the Grand Prix Nespresso (10,000 Euros) and the Prix France Révélation 4 (4,000 Euros) to the movie, making it a true triumph amongst its Italian seven competitors. The Grand Prix of the Semaine de la Critique in the past has been awarded to distinguished filmmakers such as Guillermo del Toro, Gaspar Noé, Alejandro González Iñárritu, Crialesse or more recently Jeff Nichols.

Salvo, a mafia killer, is a lonely, cold and ruthless man. When he breaks into a house in order to kill a man, he meets Rita, a blind girl who helplessly witnesses her brother’s murder. Salvo tries to close those disturbing eyes that observe without seeing. But the impossible happens: Rita for the first time can see. So Salvo decides to spare her. From that moment the two, both persecuted by the world they belong to, are forever one.

By a curious coincidence SALVO had its world premiere at the Semaine de la Critique on the exact date of the fifth anniversary of the first presentation of TorinoFilmLab at the Film Festival in Cannes in May 16, 2008.

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